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Discovery's ET/SRB stacking on hold for tank modifications

NASA TV to air module move by ISS flight engineers



◆ Shuttle Update:

Forward, midbody and aft closeout work continues on **Discovery** in OPF bay 3. The orbiter docking system pyrotechnic testing is under way. Functional testing of

the external door and final testing of the engine cutoff sensor wiring modifications are complete. Final payload bay door closing is scheduled for next week.

Stacking and closeout of the STS-120 solid rocket boosters in the VAB have finished. Mating of the external tank to the boosters has been postponed, pending completion of foam modification work that will be done on the tank's liquid oxygen feedline support brackets.

In OPF bay 1, technicians continue making modifications to **Atlantis'** engine cutoff sensor wiring. This work involves rerouting new wires and installing new resistors. Workers also continue installing new, stronger tiles, known as Boeing Reusable Insulation, or BRI tiles, around the main landing gear doors.

Installation of the main propulsion system tanks is complete, with leak checks planned next week. Waterproofing of the orbiter's thermal protection system is planned for Sunday. The left-hand orbital maneuvering system pod was removed for a valve replacement.

Endeavour is in OPF bay 2 for post-flight inspections and processing. Endeavour's payload was removed last weekend.

◆ **ISS Update:** On Thursday, NASA TV will broadcast the relocation of a pressurized component of the International Space Station, the first step toward

adding new international science laboratories to the orbiting outpost. NASA TV coverage of the activities, expected to last about five hours, will begin at 5:30 a.m.

This will be the first time such a move is conducted without a space shuttle present. Expedition 15 flight engineers Clayton Anderson and Oleg Kotov will use the station's Canadarm2 robotic arm to detach a large docking adapter from one port of the Unity connecting node and attach it to another port. The docking adapter is designated Pressurized Mating Adapter 3 or PMA 3.

The move will make room for the attachment of the Harmony connecting module, or Node 2, which will be delivered to the station on the next space shuttle mission, targeted for launch in late October. Harmony will provide ports to attach the station's European and Japanese laboratory modules. The laboratories are targeted to be delivered in late 2007 and early 2008, respectively.

■ **Legislative Update With Congressman Dave Weldon** — On Wednesday, Weldon will hold two hour-long briefings, at 1:30 p.m. and at 4 p.m. in the OSB II/5th floor conference room. He will provide a Congressional budget update and talk about the transition from shuttle to the Constellation Program. *Civil servant and contractor employees must check with their supervisor for approval to attend.*

■ **KSC Engineering Academy Historical Panel Discussion: KSC Perspectives On Apollo 13** — The KSC Engineering Directorate will conduct a historical panel discussion from 9 to

11:30 a.m. on Thursday at the KSC Training Auditorium (located between KSC HQ and O&C buildings). The panelist will discuss "root causes of the incident -- human factors, technical items, decisions, KSC support activities, (i.e., simulators, flight crew equipment, etc.)," and more.

NASA and contractor personnel are invited. If you have any questions, please contact Gisele Altman at gisele.altman-1@nasa.gov or 867-4000. Also, questions are being gathered in advance for the panelists to address during their Q&A. Send your questions to KSC-Engineering-Academy@mail.nasa.gov.

■ **Engineering Workshop for Girls in 7th to 10th grades** — The Society of Women Engineers will conduct an exciting new program for girls in seventh to 10th grades, called "WOW! That's Engineering!" on Oct. 20 at Bayside High School in Palm Bay. This one-day workshop will include five hands-on lab activities, allowing the girls to experience the creativity and innovation of engineering and technology and to meet women engineers and technologists and hear first-hand about these exciting careers. Registration is now open on the web at www.swe-sc.org/WOW. For more information, contact Judy Kersey at judy.kersey@swe.org or call 783-4644.

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